



AFCESA A-GRAM



AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER SUPPORT AGENCY

99-29

JUNE 1999

VEHICLE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT

SYNOPSIS:

This supersedes A-Gram 94-10, dated October 1994.

It is AFCEA's goal to provide vehicles and construction equipment that meet all user requirements. Special emphasis is placed on obtaining commercial state-of-the-art technology that improves productivity.

TELEPHONE MAINTENANCE LINE TRUCKS:

On the basis of customer input, line trucks being procured today are top-of-the-line machines. The most important improvement is replacement of the standard 3-piece, 2-stage hydraulic and 1-stage manual, telescoping boom. It is being replaced with a hydraulically operated 3-stage boom. The boom consists of first- and second-stage steel sections and a third stage of rigid Fiberglas.



In addition, the steel pole handling flares and tilting pole guide are transferable from the second stage to the end of the third stage when handling large poles. These improvements give the line truck increased flexibility and safety in operation. Redesigned rear outriggers give full use of the rear platform to carry tools and equipment.

HIGH REACH IMPROVEMENTS:

High reaches now come equipped with a Fiberglas material handling jib. The jib tilts hydraulically from 15 to 75 degrees in line with the upper boom centerline. It has lifting capacity of 1,500 lbs. The jib winch is mounted at the tip of the boom and is rated at 1,500 lbs. It is controlled from the platform or the turret and comes with 80 feet of 7/16-inch polypropylene rope.

The right side work basket is equipped with a basket rotator. This mechanism allows the technician to swing the basket forward, closer to the work area.

The addition of the jib and basket rotator reduces the number of vehicles and personnel required to hang transformers.

COSTS:

Both machines are expensive. The basic line truck is \$140,656 and the

high reach is \$91,715. Equipping each with all its options and associated equipment increases the unit cost, but it is important that customers receive a vehicle that is properly equipped to meet all job requirements, yet not overequipped. Money saved is used for acquisition of line trucks and high reaches for other civil engineer units.



CURRENT PROVIDERS:

Line and aerial platform trucks are currently being purchased through the General Services Administration, contract GS-30-1028G. The contract with Altec Industries Inc. expires 31 July 2002.

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